What's Blooming at Pinnacles National Park?

March 29, 2017





Silver Bush Lupine

(Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons) - Fabaceae

This shrub has silvery-hairy leaves and tiers of purple and white flowers. It tends to grow in sandy washes and gravelly soil. Check out the eastern entrance to the park on Hwy 146.



Woodland Star

(Lithophragma affine) - Saxifragaceae

Woodland star has a white flower with five petals that appear fringed or deeply lobed. The flowers may appear in clusters of three to fifteen. As the name suggests, it prefers shady woodland and some streamside areas.



Fremont's Star Lily

(Toxicoscordion fremontii) - Melanthiaceae

This plant, also called Fremon't death camas, is toxic to livestock and people due to alkaloids in the leaves, and especially in its bulb. It has a cluster of white flowers with six petals and long, narrow leaves with wavy edges.



Purple Owl's Clover

(Castilleja exserta ssp. exserta) - Orobanchaceae

This small flower is related to paintbrush species, and is also partially parasitic. It is usually about 6-8 inches tall, and may appear alone or in large groups. It has a cluster of purple to pink flowers, sometimes with white tips.



California Figwort

(Scrophularia californica) - Scrophulariaceae

This species, sometimes called bee plant, has a small red or maroon flower with two lobes that look like little ears. The leaves are triangular with serrated edges, and the whole plant may be 1-4 feet tall.

Other Plants Blooming in the Park

Baby blue eyes Bishop's lotus Acmispon strigosus Fabaceae Bishop's lotus Acmispon strigosus Fabaceae Blue dicks Dichelostemma capitatum sp. capitatum Blue dicks Dichelostemma capitatum sp. capitatum Blue fiesta flower Pholistoma auritum var. auritum Solanaceae Blue fiesta flower Pholistoma auritum var. auritum Solanaceae Bush poppy Dendromecon rigida Papaveraceae Bush poppy Dendromecon rigida Papaveraceae California buttercup Ranunculus californicus Scrophulariaceae California figwort Scrophularia californica Scrophulariaceae California heige nettle Stachys bullata Lamiaceae California saxifrage Micranthes californica Saxifragaceae Checker lily Fritillaria affinis Liliaceae Chinese houses Collinsia heterophylla Plantaginaceae Common large monkeyflower Cream cups Platystemon californicus Papaveraceae Fiddleneck Amsinckia spp. Boraginaceae Phrymaceae Platystemon californicus Papaveraceae Jewelflower Streptanthus glandulosus ssp. glandulosus Johnny jump-ups Viola pedunculata Viola pedunculata Viola pedunculata Asteraceae Mosquito bills Dodecatheon hendersonii Primulaceae Pretty faces Titillaria passe Cardamine californica Brassicaceae Purple owl's clover Shooting stars Dodecatheon hendersonii Primulaceae Pretty faces Titillaria passe passer Dodecatheon hendersonii Primulaceae Sticky monkeyflower Mimulus gurantiacus Phrymaceae Phrymaceae Phrymaceae Pretty faces Titillaria passer Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Primulaceae Sticky monkeyflower Mimulus aurantiacus Phrymaceae Fabaceae Warrior's plume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Warrior splume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Warrior's plume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Warrior splume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae White fiesta flower Pholistoma membranaceum Brassicaceae Woolly	Common Name	Scientific Name	Family
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Milk maids Cardamine californica Brassicaceae Mosquito bills Dodecatheon hendersonii Primulaceae Naked broomrape Orobanche uniflora Orobanchaceae Popcorn flower Plagiobothrys spp. Boraginaceae Pretty faces Tritileia lugens Themidaceae Purple owl's clover Castilleja exserta spp. exserta Shooting stars Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Silver bush lupine Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Sticky monkeyflower Mimulus aurantiacus Phrymaceae Tomcat clover Trifolium wildenovii Fabaceae Warrior's plume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Western wallflower Erysimum capitatum var. capitatum Brassicaceae White fiesta flower Pholistoma membranaceum Boraginaceae White plectritis Plectritis macrocera Valerianaceae Woodland star Lithophragma affine Saxifragaceae	Lace parsnip	Lomatium dasycarpum ssp. dasycarpum	Apiaceae
Mosquito bills Dodecatheon hendersonii Primulaceae Naked broomrape Orobanche uniflora Orobanchaceae Popcorn flower Plagiobothrys spp. Boraginaceae Pretty faces Tritileia lugens Themidaceae Purple owl's clover Castilleja exserta spp. exserta Shooting stars Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Silver bush lupine Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Sticky monkeyflower Mimulus aurantiacus Phrymaceae Tomcat clover Trifolium wildenovii Fabaceae Warrior's plume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Western wallflower Erysimum capitatum var. capitatum Brassicaceae White fiesta flower Pholistoma membranaceum Boraginaceae White plectritis Plectritis macrocera Valerianaceae Woodland star Lithophragma affine Saxifragaceae	Larkspur	Delphinium spp.	Ranunculaceae
Naked broomrape Popcorn flower Popcorn flower Pretty faces Pretty faces Purple owl's clover Silver bush lupine Sticky monkeyflower Tomcat clover Warrior's plume Western wallflower Western wallflower White flesta flower Woodland star Naked broomrape Orobanchaceae Plagiobothrys spp. Plagiobothrys spp. Plagiobothrys spp. Boraginaceae Themidaceae Castilleja exserta spp. exserta Orobanchaceae Stricky exserta Orobanchaceae Primulaceae Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Phrymaceae Phrymaceae Fabaceae Orobanchaceae Warrior's plume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae White flesta flower Pholistoma membranaceum Boraginaceae Valerianaceae Walerianaceae Valerianaceae Valerianaceae	Milk maids	Cardamine californica	Brassicaceae
Popcorn flower Pretty faces Pretty faces Purple owl's clover Shooting stars Silver bush lupine Sticky monkeyflower Tomcat clover Warrior's plume Western wallflower Western wallflower White flesta flower Woodland star Podecatine place Plagiobothrys spp. Plagiobothrys spp. Plagiobothrys spp. Plagiobothrys spp. Plagiobothrys spp. Boraginaceae Themidaceae Castilleja exserta spp. exserta Orobanchaceae Primulaceae Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Mimulus aurantiacus Phrymaceae Trifolium wildenovii Fabaceae Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Brassicaceae White flesta flower Pholistoma membranaceum Boraginaceae Valerianaceae Walerianaceae Valerianaceae	Mosquito bills	Dodecatheon hendersonii	Primulaceae
Pretty faces Purple owl's clover Shooting stars Silver bush lupine Sticky monkeyflower Tomcat clover Warrior's plume Western wallflower White fiesta flower White plectritis Woodland star Prittileia lugens Themidaceae Castilleja exserta spp. exserta Orobanchaceae Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Primulaceae Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Phrymaceae Phrymaceae Trifolium wildenovii Fabaceae Orobanchaceae Brassicaceae Warrior's plume Primulaceae Fabaceae Phrymaceae Fabaceae Vertifis densiflora Orobanchaceae Brassicaceae Walerianaceae Valerianaceae Valerianaceae Saxifragaceae	Naked broomrape	Orobanche uniflora	Orobanchaceae
Purple owl's clover Shooting stars Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Silver bush lupine Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Sticky monkeyflower Tomcat clover Warrior's plume Western wallflower White fiesta flower White plectritis Woodland star Castilleja exserta spp. exserta Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Primulaceae Fabaceae Fabaceae Phrymaceae Fabaceae Orobanchaceae Fabaceae Phrymaceae Fabaceae Fabaceae Fabaceae Fabaceae Valerianaceae Western wallflower Pholistoma membranaceum Boraginaceae Valerianaceae Valerianaceae Saxifragaceae	Popcorn flower	Plagiobothrys spp.	Boraginaceae
Shooting stars Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Silver bush lupine Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Sticky monkeyflower Tomcat clover Warrior's plume Western wallflower White fiesta flower White plectritis Woodland star Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum Lupinus albifrons Fabaceae Phrymaceae Fabaceae Orobanchaceae Brassicaceae Boraginaceae Valerianaceae Valerianaceae Saxifragaceae	Pretty faces	Tritileia lugens	Themidaceae
Silver bush lupine Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Sticky monkeyflower Tomcat clover Warrior's plume Western wallflower White fiesta flower White plectritis Woodland star Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons Fabaceae Phrymaceae Fabaceae Orobanchaceae Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Brassicaceae Boraginaceae Valerianaceae Valerianaceae Saxifragaceae	Purple owl's clover	Castilleja exserta spp. exserta	Orobanchaceae
Sticky monkeyflower Tomcat clover Trifolium wildenovii Fabaceae Warrior's plume Pedicularis densiflora Western wallflower White fiesta flower White plectritis Pholistoma membranaceum Woodland star Mimulus aurantiacus Fhrymaceae Fabaceae Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Brassicaceae Worlie plectritis Pholistoma membranaceum Valerianaceae Valerianaceae Saxifragaceae	Shooting stars	Dodecatheon clevelandii ssp. patulum	Primulaceae
Tomcat clover Trifolium wildenovii Fabaceae Warrior's plume Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Western wallflower Erysimum capitatum var. capitatum White fiesta flower Pholistoma membranaceum Boraginaceae White plectritis Plectritis macrocera Valerianaceae Woodland star Lithophragma affine Saxifragaceae	Silver bush lupine	Lupinus albifrons var. albifrons	Fabaceae
Warrior's plume Western wallflower White fiesta flower White plectritis Woodland star Pedicularis densiflora Pedicularis densiflora Orobanchaceae Brassicaceae Boraginaceae Valerianaceae Valerianaceae Saxifragaceae	Sticky monkeyflower	Mimulus aurantiacus	Phrymaceae
Western wallflowerErysimum capitatum var. capitatumBrassicaceaeWhite fiesta flowerPholistoma membranaceumBoraginaceaeWhite plectritisPlectritis macroceraValerianaceaeWoodland starLithophragma affineSaxifragaceae	Tomcat clover	Trifolium wildenovii	Fabaceae
White fiesta flowerPholistoma membranaceumBoraginaceaeWhite plectritisPlectritis macroceraValerianaceaeWoodland starLithophragma affineSaxifragaceae	Warrior's plume	Pedicularis densiflora	Orobanchaceae
White plectritis Plectritis macrocera Valerianaceae Woodland star Lithophragma affine Saxifragaceae	Western wallflower	Erysimum capitatum var. capitatum	Brassicaceae
Woodland star Lithophragma affine Saxifragaceae	White fiesta flower	Pholistoma membranaceum	Boraginaceae
, 3 2	White plectritis	Plectritis macrocera	Valerianaceae
Woolly paintbrush Castilleja foliolosa Orobanchaceae	Woodland star	Lithophragma affine	Saxifragaceae
	Woolly paintbrush	Castilleja foliolosa	Orobanchaceae

Resources for Identifying Plants

Pinnacles National Park Website: http://www.nps.gov/pinn/learn/nature/plants.htm

Check the right side of the page for links to tree and wildflower photo galleries, the digital herbarium, and the park plant checklist.

CalFlora: http://www.calflora.org

Search for plants to find distribution maps, plant characteristics, blooming period, and more.

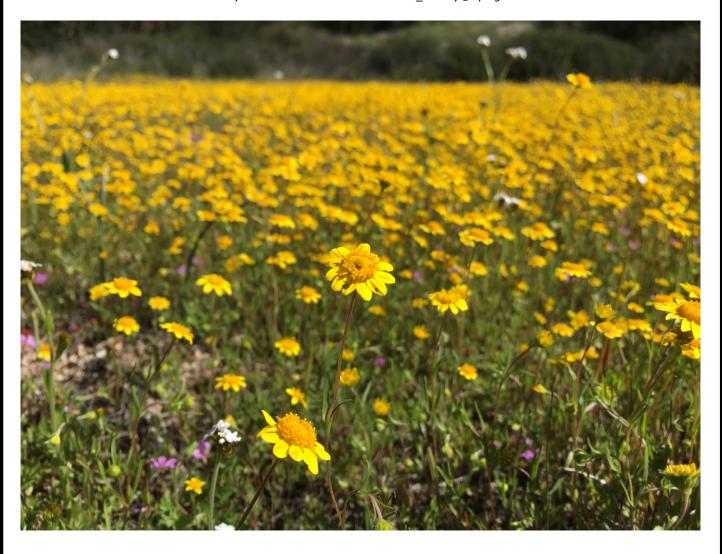
CalPhotos: http://calphotos.berkeley.edu/flora/

A great database of photos to help ID what you're seeing in the field.

iNaturalist: http://www.inaturalist.org/

This site is a social media platform for sharing natural history observations. You can make your own records, help others with identification, and see what species are in your area. There are smartphone apps available for iOS and Android.

Species nomenclature based on Jepson 2012
Send your own observations to michael_shelley@nps.gov



Goldfields can create impressive carpets in flat, open, sandy areas between shrubs and in stream washes. Photo by Mike Shelley, NPS.